

Men are hard at work removing the debris of the Nuanu street fire, which originated in Love's bakery.

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Fire Delegates last Thursday at the house of Engine Co. No. 2.

We understand from an exchange that the list of claims against the estate of Hart Brothers amounts to a total of \$36,204.81.

Bethel Church held a social for young people last Thursday which was largely attended, and the visitors enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

All the disciples of Isaac Walton have been after the little red fish recently. Their advent has been quite a source of sport to residents of the city.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society held their usual social at Fort Street Church last Thursday. These reunions are always most pleasant to all concerned.

Mrs. C. R. Bishop and Mrs. J. S. McGrew are actively engaged in the good work of selling tickets for the Strangers' Friends Society Concert to-night.

A native named Hiram Kubano discovered that his bed was on fire yesterday evening when he returned to his house. He believes that it was the act of an incendiary.

Three of the sixteen lepers who went to Molokai on Wednesday were unfortunately bed ridden. Dr. Fitch went with them on this errand of mercy to their last home.

Captain Clunie is a loser to the amount of \$175 in jewelry and about \$28 in silver coin. It was all contained in a strong box which some thief or thieves broke open.

The next arrival of Portuguese immigrants may be expected between one and two weeks from now. The last lot are happily domiciled and settled on the various plantations.

Captain Tell has purchased a fine new boat as a means of communication with his family and residence on Quarantine Island. He finds it preferable to going round in a wagon.

Mr. Frank May has resigned from Mechanic Engine Co. No. 2. We understand that he had some difficulty with another member. Four new members were elected on Wednesday night.

Sixteen lepers, including one white man, were sent up last week by the steamer Mokoli, from the Branch Hospital at Kakaako to the Leper Settlement at Kalawao. Dr. Fitch accompanied them.

A native named Kanni, an ex-policeman, and recently in the employ of Hackfeld & Co., was arrested Thursday for stealing two pairs of pants from one of the clerks. His case will come up to-day.

Mr. McCartney was buried Wednesday afternoon, a large concourse of friends attending. The usual Episcopal services were held, and the grief at his decease was universal.

A new eight-oared boat is being built for the King. It is stated that when finished it will not weigh more than the four-oared boat recently built for the "Myrtles." We hope to see her shortly, and will report on her capabilities.

When His Majesty the King went down to the steamer last Thursday to see the 16 lepers off, he was profoundly affected. His assurances of sympathy were so clear and genuine that every one who heard his remarks was deeply touched.

Mr. J. M. Sass will bring down the new steamer Jas. G. Blaine, for the Inter-Island Navigation Company. He also went up to the Coast to attend to some minor details connected with the new line company, formed by himself and Mr. Stephens, the works of which have been constructed in the last three months.

The heat last week was very great, though not particularly oppressive. At half-past one Thursday Mr. Oat's thermometer registered 82° in the cool shade of his store and ran up to 104° on being exposed for some time outside the building. The desultory and sultry weather is, beyond all doubt, the cause of a great deal of sickness.

The weather is not at present conducive to good health. It is difficult to find anybody who will say that he is in perfect health. We have failed, however, to hear of any one who is more than generally indisposed. There is no epidemic of a zymotic character in town, nor any epidemic except the island fever usually prevalent in August and September. However, nobody feels particularly cheerful, and we will be glad to see a change of climatic condition. Several ladies are confined to their beds.

The excavations for the new police station have been completed, and nearly all the material necessary for the new building is on the ground. The basement is already in course of erection, and the scantlings for the concrete walls are in position. We learn officially that there will be used about 5,000 feet of scantling, 7,000 feet of one and a half inch redwood, and 1200 pounds of half-inch iron bolts, as a mould for the formation of the concrete walls. The use of concrete material costs \$4.60 less than brick per cubic yard. There will be about 800 cubic yards of concrete laid before the upper part of the building is started on. The concrete walls will be eleven feet from the foundation. Concrete walls are said to be stronger than stone.

Mr. C. O. Berger wants a handy lad for office boy, with good recommendations.

Hon. Chief Justice Judd and Major Antone Rosa left last week by the Planter for Kau, Hawaii.

Mr. E. R. Hendry in our advertising columns states that the notice of the Collector General, stating that he had resigned the position of Deputy Collector, is not true.

It will be seen in another column that Mr. P. A. Dias pays a tribute to the Macneale & Urban safe which preserved all the documents connected with his business in a perfect condition.

Mr. W. P. Akan has taken charge of the now dissolved firm of Quong Fan Cheong Co., storekeepers, on Hotel street, and he asks any creditors to present their claims before the 5th instant.

The Bulletin states that "Two young men desire situations. Can do rough work of any kind." They had better turn their attention to the rough work in the grammar of the Bulletin, and yet the Bulletin accuses the Morning Guide of being a blind guide in syntax.

His Majesty the King witnessed the embarkation last evening of a number of lepers per steamer Mokoli. He consoled them to the best of his ability, and on parting, he said, "Ke aloha no ko oukou," to which they responded with a hearty "Aloha oe."

The roads in the city are in a most disgraceful condition. The Road Supervisor deserves the severest condemnation of the community. Merchant street near Fort is full of holes, and yesterday a prominent citizen was nearly upset near this office, by an ugly break in the road.

The Gazette is very much excited over the Military Bill, and denounces it in the very strongest language. That paper does not seem to appreciate the fact that the time may yet come when the Government may have to put down insurrectionary language and insurrectionary acts by force of arms.

Wasp vs. Bug.

There was a curious fight last week in a garden on Hotel street, between a wasp and a green caterpillar. It commenced on a Venetian blind outside of one of the bed rooms of the house. The wasp got the worst of it at first, as the bug wound itself round his body. Finally, however, with a desperate effort, he secured the caterpillar in some way with his legs and tried to force it into a hole in the wall of the house. Failing to do this, he still kept it in a tight embrace, and with a strength that seemed perfectly amazing, flew away with it across the garden.

Rex vs. Poe.

In the case of the King vs. Poe (k), indicted for perjury in the District Court of Koolaupeko, Mr. L. A. Thurston, counsel for defendant, asked that the records be transferred to the Intermediary Court, the presiding Justice being disqualified. This request was granted, and the case will be taken up in the Supreme Court on September 25th.

An Unhappy Motif.

A beautiful specimen of the "humming bird" moth flew into the sanctum last week and was examined with great interest. The lady—for it was one of the gentler sex—was nearly as large as a small hummingbird. The sucker with which it investigates the depths of a thousand flowers was over four inches long when extended by the aid of a pin. The body was exquisitely ornamented with feathery red and black eyes, and its ruby eyes shone with phenomenal brilliancy. The four heavy and large, strong wings had been somewhat worn and injured, and the long antennae testified to the age of the insect. Darwin would probably call it the connecting link between an insect and a bird. When hovering over a flower, the wings have a very rapid motion, vibrating so as to be almost invisible.

The Charity Concert.

The Bemenyi charitable concert for the benefit of the society of Friends of Strangers brought together an enthusiastic audience and was a perfect entertainment. As we understand the work of the society it provides and cares as a friend for all strangers on this island who may be destitute of means and be taken sick. It nurses them or sends them to the hospital, and generally fulfills the words of St. Paul in his epistle to the Corinthians regarding the essence of charity. Of course it would be just as easy to give this society two or three dollars as it is to buy a couple of tickets, and when the society calls on the community for donations, we shall do our level best to come into the ranks ourselves and drive others into line. If we will separate our souls for a few moments from the nasty gossip of Honolulu and will quietly consider what good this society is doing, which cares for sick and friendless strangers, we must all acknowledge that in the love which we ought to bear one to another, we should never miss an opportunity to further the work of this charitable association.

Death of David McCartney.

With regret we record the death of one of the most amiable young men of this city, in the person of David McCartney. He was born in Alleghany, Pennsylvania, and arrived here on July 11th, 1881. He was a little over twenty-seven years of age, and a year ago was married to Miss May Fanning of this city, who is now a bereaved widow. He died of fever, whether malarial or typhoid, the doctors are unable to determine. He was principally under the able care of Dr. Trousdale. Mr. McCartney was noted for his quiet demeanor and his temperate habits. He was married and buried from the Episcopal Cathedral, of which church he was a member.

Mr. David McCartney was one of the best druggists in town, and had any amount of friends. His funeral was largely attended Wednesday afternoon. He resided at Bereania street, No. 84, with his young bride. He was really a member of the Honolulu Rifles, but he was ailing when he joined them and never worked with them. He was also a bass singer in a local quartette, possessing an excellent deep voice. If he had given away early to his sickness, he would have probably been alive to-day, but with indomitable pluck he stuck it out until the last.

Noises of the Night.

Honolulu is a very quiet city by day, but it only requires one sleepless night to find out what a racket goes on between twilight and morn. The Honolulu rooster probably goes to sleep in the afternoon, for he commences to crow about midnight, and keeps up a conversation with a brother rooster until day break. Then about 4 o'clock the milk men come along, and they wrench open gates and clatter milk cans as if they owned the whole city. The next arrival is the ice man who jingles his shears and makes more noise in handling ten pounds of ice than a locomotive does when it is whistling in a tunnel. For half an hour there is peace, and then everybody who is going to work passes under the window and either roars with jollity, or is excited over some matter that interests him. The church bells begin at 5 A.M. and inflict the night editor with a devout desire that Palladius had never existed. They rattle along until 7 o'clock, and finally succeed in driving out of his bed the collector of news, who has written and scribbled until past midnight. There was never a worker on a morning paper yet who did not vote church bells, cats, milk wagons, and ice carts an infernal nuisance.

Dog Log.

Mr. Thomas More, of this city, is regretting the loss of a very valuable dog, "Uno." It is believed that he boarded the steamer Alameda on Tuesday, and failed to find his way off when the steamer left. The dog was a thoroughbred large black-and-tan, and a great favorite with everybody who knew it.

HEALTH REPORT.

MORTUARY REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1884.

The total number of deaths reported for the month of August was 40, distributed as follows:

Under 1 year.....	4	From 30 to 40.....	5
From 1 to 5.....	1	From 40 to 50.....	4
From 5 to 10.....	2	From 50 to 60.....	2
From 10 to 20.....	1	From 60 to 70.....	3
From 20 to 30.....	1	Over 70.....	1

Males.....	27	Females.....	13
Hawaiians.....	28	Great Britain.....	1
Chinese.....	4	United States.....	2
Portuguese.....	3	Other Nationalities.....	2
South Sea Islands.....	0		

CAUSE OF DEATH.

Accident.....	3	Fever.....	1
Beriberi.....	2	Leprosy.....	4
Cancer.....	1	Measles.....	1
Childbirth.....	1	Old Age.....	3
Consumption.....	4	Opium.....	2
Convulsions.....	5	Paralysis.....	2
Dysentery.....	1	Scrofula.....	1
Disease of heart.....	1	Syphilis.....	1
Debility.....	4	Tuberculosis.....	1
Dropsy.....	2		
Total.....	40		
Unattended.....	13		

COMPARATIVE MONTHLY MORTALITY.

August, 1873, deaths.....	28	August, 1882, deaths.....	45
August, 1879, deaths.....	30	August, 1883, deaths.....	48
August, 1880, deaths.....	48	August, 1884, deaths.....	40
August, 1881, deaths.....	34		

DEATHS BY WARDS FOR MONTH.

Ward, 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	
Death 1 1 2 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Outside.....	11

NOTE—Three of the above were non-residents
JOHN H. BROWN,
Agent Board of Health.

An ingenious Southerner has conceived the idea of opening a hotel for suicides. He acts upon the American idea of the largest liberty for the largest hallucination. He proposes to let rooms and furnish board to gentleman and ladies who contemplate self-destruction, and will furnish all modern conveniences. Each room will be supplied with a finely ornamented brass hook, upon which the guest can get up and hang himself at any hour. Gas, of course, will be furnished, that can be blown out before retiring, and pistols will be kept in the billiard room.

AT APIANG, GILBERT GROUP.

From the anchorage in the Apiang lagoon, opposite about the center of the semi-circular line of habitable land, we can see the high steep roofs of "council houses" showing at frequent intervals in the dense growth of palms covering the island. Each one of these large buildings marks the site of a village. Each village consists of from ten to twenty, sometimes more houses, and in each house is generally to be found a man his wife, and two or three children. None of the families are very large, for, aside from the losses sustained from disease, infanticide is rather the rule than the exception, and this practice, so revolting to us, is with the Gilbert Islanders the result of stern necessity. As has been stated before, the area of dry land on Apiang (and of the other islands of the group as well) is very small, not exceeding five square miles, and of this at least one-third is covered with a lime-like crust in which nothing will grow. This strip of land which is about three-quarters of a mile wide in the center, and narrows to nothing on each end, may be twenty miles in length, and is divided into 1,674 holdings. There was, at the last census taken by Captain Randolph, 1,520 males, and 1,583 females living on this strip. Each holding runs completely across the island, and these divisions vary from one to ten fathoms in width, the average being, perhaps, four fathoms. Aside from what the Gilbert Islander can gather from the sea, his food consists of the coconuts and the fruit of the pandanus, which is prepared in several ways. The yearly crop of coprah (coconut meat) is about 2,000,000 lbs, worth to the natives an average of one cent per lb. It does not take much figuring to learn that the annual money income of each person on Apiang is, says six dollars and a half; or, to put it in another way, from each of the 1674 holdings is realized nearly double the sum above named. Small as is this amount, it is sufficient to supply the people with articles of luxury (everything they purchase from traders outside of tobacco, which with them may be called a necessity of life) and all the year round the population as it stands have green coconuts to eat, and the milk and toddy to drink.

But any material increase in their numbers would bring on what a lack of the ordinary annual rain-fall does—a famine. Families living next each other frequently betroth the boy of one household to the girl of another in infancy, and naturally look forward to the time when the young couple will want a portion of the two estates set apart for them. Taking forty-eight, or say fifty feet as the average width of the two properties, it will be seen that when this is reduced by a third being given to the happy pair, there is not much left for the other children if there be any; and so as the island is incapable of further subdivision for the support of a larger population, the population is kept within certain limits by sometimes extinguishing a human life in its first hours of independent existence, oftener, though, before that period.

A careful estimate of the number of coconut trees in Apiang gives the island about 170,000, bearing an average of sixty nuts per annum to each tree. The size of the nuts vary so much as the years are dry or wet, that no good estimate can be made of the average yield in pounds of coprah to the tree. Every family has its "toddy" tree, and pandanus grove.

This latter fruit grows to a very much larger size than it does in the Hawaiian Islands, and is carefully utilized. In some cases the entire nut is pounded into a husky fibrous mass, which is "felted" together, as it were, into a flat slab about two feet long, eight or ten inches wide, and an inch thick perhaps. These slabs are smoked a little, dried in the sun, and then piled away. Another mode of preparing the fruit is to grate it up into a sort of coarse powder like saw dust. This, when smoked and dried, is packed in rolls little and big, wrapped neatly in the long slender leaves of the tree itself, and bound around with coconut fibre cord. A sweet paste as well as a kind of molasses is also made from this fruit, which is useful, but altogether of secondary importance to the coconut.

Of course everything that is edible (and not a few things that we would say are not, until we had been on one of these islands a few months) is gathered in nets and traps, by hook and by crook, and devoured.

While wandering about on the platform reef bordering the island, we were accompanied by a group of youngsters who were very active and skillful in discovering and capturing all sorts of curious sea animals and shells. They brought everything to us; one would come with a hand full of starfish, whose slender feelers armed with minute suckers wound around about in all directions. Another would hold out for inspection what looked like a thick smoked sausage studded with unsightly warts. This is one of the *holothuria* or sea slugs, which when dried is known as "beche-le-mer."

Anon, another breechless imp came running with a curious animal about 18 inches long, and an inch in diameter. Its color is ashen grey speckled with black, and surrounded with dark rings. It is dropped into a shallow pool, and almost immediately attaches itself to the rock by one end, which terminates in a sucker-foot, while from the other extremity issue eight delicate arms fringed with cilia. These arms it uses to seek its food, and the way it moves itself about is very curious. There appears near the foot-end a bunching of the body as if inside it there was a good-sized ball, and this enlargement is gradually transferred to the head-end of the animal, where it is merged into an elongation of the neck and forward movement of the head. By repeating this movement several times, the creature elongated itself five or six inches, and then let go with its sucker-foot and hauled itself together for another stretch. Picking him up in the middle, we were astonished at seeing the whole contents of the body, as it were, run to either end as if the animal had been a long, thin rubber tube half-filled with water. Having no time to examine the thing any further, he was dropped into the water again, and the boys went after some small fish that were skipping about in the shallow pools, and from one to the other over the rocks. These little things looked, at the first glance, like tadpoles, but were, as far as we could judge, true "fish." They were about three inches long, with scaleless bodies, as slippery as if they had been oiled, and as active and expert at dodging as a greased pig at a fair. They would fly around in a pool holding not more than a gallon of water so rapidly as to defy the boys' efforts to catch them, and when the youngsters bailed out the water with their hands, the fish would suddenly spring out of the rapidly-diminishing pool, and go flapping and skipping over the rough coral rock for another patch of water. While in transit, many of them were caught and eaten. Half of their length was solid flesh, tasting remarkably like a delicate oyster, and we heartily enjoyed lunching off them.

Several varieties of seaweed are eaten, as are all the shell-fish found on the reef—from the minute winkles and limpets to the huge landachne, of which specimens have been found weighing, shell and all, five hundred pounds. There are two varieties of these great "clams," one of which has an opening near the hinge of its shell from which it protrudes a hairy-like foot or byssus, with which it clings to the rocks. The other and larger variety has no such contrivance, but as they rest on the coral rock they dissolve or wear it away about them, and sink into its substance until nothing can be seen of their shells but a few inches of the two edges fitting into each in deep undulations. The animal can open his shell only a few inches, and spread out over a circle of three or four feet in diameter like a "mantle," the folds of which, viewed through the clear waters of the lagoon, display most gorgeous colors, as if a mammoth rose had unfolded its tinted petals to the sun.

A lady, upon visiting Mr. Barnum's white elephant in his London quarters, expressed her disappointment in finding the animal merely of a gray color. "Well, ma'am," said the keeper, consolingly, "maybe he ain't werry white, but then he's werry sacred."